

**REMARKS**

By the present amendment, the specification has been amended to return to the original paragraphs of the original application.

Further, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 17 and 18.

Claim 1 has also been amended to replace “sliding mean variation per unit time (L’)” by the original recitation “moving average (L’)” and to replace “controlled to lie” by the original recitation “lies,” as in the original application.

Claim 1 has also been amended to delete the phrase “wherein the mean variation per unit time (L’) has an absolute value of more than zero for the duration of at least one operating stage in the permanent mode,” i.e., return to the original recitation of the correcting step as in the original application.

Claim 1 has also been amended to recite the final clause “so as to enable sensations of skidding, variations in engine speed, and noise characteristics of the engine to be brought close to those corresponding to drive trains with manual gearboxes,” as described at page 3, lines 30-33 of the original specification.

Claim 7 has been amended to replace “absolute value of the mean variation” by “absolute value in variation of the mean.” Support for this recitation is found in the original application at page 10, line 16.

Claim 14 has been amended to return to the original recitation of the “wherein” clause.

Claims 17-18 have been cancelled.

Amendment  
U.S. Appl. No. **10/538,172**  
Attorney Docket No. **PSA0301273**

Conclusion

In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 502759.

Respectfully submitted,

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